Bishops

Johnny Davis	307-4232
Dan Fuller	478-3755
Joe Holland	626-2809
Jerry Hopkins	434-4188
*Phil Porter	575-4782

*Chairman for the Month of November

Evangelists

Dan Jenkins	744-4559
David Sproule	301-2230
Josh Blackmer	319-1418

Deacons

Mike Archer	422-2995
David Brown	972-7608
Novel Brown	848-6988
Chuck Clark	627-4132
Victor Colage	798-6275
Lance Collier	793-2718
Jim Davis	747-2984
Mike Erickson	310-9916
Tim Fry	373-9121
Jeff Goodale	261-1188
Rick Hall	622-5131
Bob Higbee	.303-386-6405
Gary Jenkins	889-3585
Dick Kelley	968-1799
Jeff Leslie	744-3444
Paul Metzkes	736-9086
Buzz Nelson	627-4890
Jerry Pittman	793-2725
Kevin Weeks	

Church Office

Phone	561-848-1111
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E-mail	office@pblcoc.org

Adult 2

Adult 3

Ladies: Here I Am



Vol. LV

November 27, 2016

No. 48

Welcome New Members



Nelson, Alice

Group 2

Traci Sproule

Baptized October 2

New 10-Week Bible Class Session Begins December 4

Adult Classes (2nd 10 Weeks of This Semester) **SUNDAY MORNINGS** at 9:00 A.M. (Dec. 4-Feb. 5) **Auditorium** Romans (Part 2) David Sproule Adult 1 **Inspiration & Authority of the Scriptures** Iosh Blackmer Adult 3 **Young Adults: Proverbs** Darin Summerlot WEDNESDAY EVENINGS at 7:00 P.M. (Dec. 7-Feb. 8) **Auditorium** 2 Samuel Iosh Blackmer Adult 1 **Issues Facing the Church** Dan Jenkins

Understanding Figurative Language in the Bible | David Sproule

By Dan Jenkins

A Psalm of Thanksgiving

The book of Psalms is remarkable in so many ways. Many of the psalms come from the heart of a shepherd boy of Bethlehem and give us great insight into the very soul of a man after God's own heart.

One of the psalms repeats a phrase over and over. The psalmist said, "Oh, that

men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men" (Psa. 107:1, 8, 15, 21, 31). This phrase makes a natural

division of five situations in this psalm where men should be filled with thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving for redemption. The first section (vss. 1-7) describes the times when God brought Israel from adversity and returned them to the land He promised Abraham's descendants. While it is true the sin of God's people often was the reason they

were scattered, the psalm shows just how merciful God is toward His children. Those who were redeemed from the nations could so readily sing this psalm of thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving for souls which have been refreshed. In this section, the psalmist looks at the souls which have been brought low by the adversity around them. Their hearts are filled with darkness which is the result of ignoring God. They are bound up in affliction. Yet, when they cried out to God, He heard them. Their souls were filled with the blessing He gave

to them. Their lives turned into joy because His mercy gave them what had been missing. The psalmist said, "Give thanks to the Lord for His wonderful works."

Thanksgiving for deliverance to those who were at the gates of death. This third section (vss. 15-20) parallels thoughts found in the previous section of those who were surrounded by distress. They were so burdened they could not even eat, yet when they cried out to the Lord, He heard them

> and saved them out of all their afflictions. "Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness."

> Thanksgiving from those who were tossed in the seas. The psalmist turns his attention to those who sailed the seas and found themselves surrounded by tempestuous waves. As the waves lifted them to the heavens and then dropped them in the depths of the troughs, hope could so easily be lost. At their wit's end, they cried out to God, and He heard them,

calmed the storms and brought them to safe havens.

Thanksgiving from those who assemble to worship in the company of the elders. The mercy of God is shown in the fruitful seasons where He waters the wilderness and feeds His people. Their crops increase and their herds multiply. He exalts the poor. Oh, that men would give thanks for all He does.

Thanksgiving from our hearts. The imagery in this psalm is different from what is around us, but the lesson is so obvious. God help us to give thanksgiving for all He does!



There's No Better Comfort Than God's Comfort!

"Marvelous are

Your works, and

that my soul

God help us to

give thanks to

the Lord for all

that He has done

for us!

Too often when we are reading the Bible, there are words, phrases and clauses that we just run right over without stopping to consider, dwell and meditate. An example is found in a relative clause that Paul used in 2 Corinthians 7:6. The point that Paul is mak-By David Sproule ing in the passage is that Titus had brought

good (i.e., comforting) news about the church in Corinth. But the passage does not say that Titus "comforted" Paul, but "God...comforted." Now, I want you to focus on the four words used as a relative clause between the word "God" and the word "comforted."

Paul drops this little nugget and keeps right on going. Let's stop and unwrap it for a moment, for we are informed that we serve a God, "who comforts the downcast." Or, as the NASB translates it,

"who comforts the depressed." This letter began by calling our God, "...the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts (present tense, continually) us in all our tribulation [affliction, NASB; troubles, NIV]" (1:3-4). Did you see the word "all" used twice? When we are downcast or depressed, our God of all comfort comforts us! How does He do that?

God's presence is a constant comfort! David wrote, "Where can I flee from Your presence?" (Psa. 139:7). A child of God learns that no matter where he finds himself, "Even there

Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me" (139:10)! It doesn't get any better than that! God is omnipresent! That comforts me when I'm depressed!

God's knowledge is a constant comfort! David wrote, "O Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know...You understand...You comprehend...You know it altogether" (139:1-4). God knows everything that I have faced, am facing or will face! When I've lost a loved one, when a friend

> has hurt me, when I've suffered a major financial loss, when my health is failing, when I'm lonely, my God knows! God is omniscient! That comforts me when I'm depressed!

God's ability is a constant comfort! knows very well" wrote, "You formed...knitted...embroidered" (139:13 -15). Knowing that God was so intricately capable of so much in my life even before I was born, how capa-

> ble is He in my life right now? "Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well" (v. 14). "My God is so big, so strong and so mighty! There's nothing my God cannot do!" (cf. Eph. 3:20-21; Mark 10:27). God is omnipotent! That comforts me when I'm depressed!

> God's Word comforts (Rom. 15:4)! God's promises comfort (1 Thess. 4:13-18)! God's people comfort (2 Cor. 1:3-7; 1 Th. 5:14)! When I'm around God's Word, His promises and His people, my God comforts me, even when I'm depressed!



By Josh Blackmer

"Behold then the kindness and severity of God"

Do not fall from

the tree into

which God has

grafted you.

What would Paul have us to see in this passage? "Behold then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness, if you continue in His kindness; otherwise you also will be cut off" (Rom. 11:22). It seems a contradictory concept. Can God be both kind and severe?

The answer is yes, God is just. It is the justness of the Lord that demands He is both kind and severe.

In the immediate context, Paul is talking about us, the Gentiles. He states earlier that the hearts of some had been hardened and God allowed them to choose to reject Jesus. Because they stumbled and crucified the Christ, salvation has been made available to all (Rom. 11:11-12). Paul does point out that not all Jews were or are currently

against Christ. He himself was among a faithful remnant (Rom. 11:1-5). It is into that faithful remnant that we as Gentiles are grafted—into the kindness of God and the righteous ones belonging to the Lord.

Here again the Bible uses an example from horticulture to explain a Biblical truth. The art of grafting branches from one tree onto another has been around for centuries. The branches that were cut off, in this case the hard-hearted rebellious Jews, leave the soft inner part of the tree exposed.

To that the wild olive branch is attached and begins to nourish itself from the new root system. We as Gentiles are the wild olive branch that has been grafted into the "rich root" of the olive tree that God had prepared (Rom. 11:17). So, if we continue in His kindness, we will continue to be a part of that tree.

This great blessing comes with a warning. "Do not be arrogant toward the branches; but if you are arrogant, remember that it is not you who supports the root, but the root sup-

ports you. You will say then, 'Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.' Quite right, they were broken off for their unbelief, but you stand by your faith. Do not be conceited, but fear; for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either" (Rom. 11:18-21). For the church in Rome, they all needed to understand there was no second-class Christian. Paul wrote it this way, "For

there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him" (Rom. 10:12).

The kindness and severity of God are both a warning and an encouragement. It is the severity of God that would cause me to fear the repercussions of sin, knowing that I could be cut off from the root. It is the goodness of God that makes me run from sin and towards Him. Do not fall from the tree into which God has grafted you.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

for the Dan

A paregoric Christian

As Paul closed his letter to the church at Colosse, he mentioned several of his "fellow workers for the kingdom of God," and he had this to say about them: "they have proved to be a comfort to me" (Col. 4:11). What a great compliment! But, it's even better than that! The Greek word for "comfort" in this verse is *paregoria* (only here in the New Testament). It

was used especially as a medical term, in the sense of soothing, solace, alleviating. From this word is derived our English word "paregoric," a medicine that soothes and lessens pain. These brethren who came to Paul, while he was in a Roman prison, proved to be a medicine, which soothed and lessened his pain, discomfort and discouragement, just by their presence. What a

discouragement, just by their presence. What a great compliment!

Are you a paregoric Christian? Are you a brother or sister in Christ who is soothing to be around and offers solace and easing of pain to your fellow Christians? Some Christians seem to have a knack for providing a natural, soothing comfort in times of stress? Do you? -DS

Agonizing for my brethren in what?

When you think about a Christian "laboring fervently" (NKJV) or "laboring earnestly" (NASB) or "always striving" (ASV) or "always struggling" (ESV), what do you think about it? I'm sure the constant struggle of faithful living comes to mind. But what if two words were added to the end of each of these phrases above: "laboring fervently...laboring earnestly...always

striving... always struggling **for you**"? Those two words give that expression a whole new meaning. Now, the constant struggle is on behalf of fellow Christians. BUT, the verse isn't done yet!

In commending Epaphras to his home congregation in Colosse (Col. 4:12), Paul wanted the

brethren to know how much Epaphras loved them, thought of them and labored for them. The Greek word for "laboring fervently" is *agonizomai*. Do you see the word "agonize" in that? It was an athletic term that carried the idea of wrestling. Now, go back to the verse. Ephphras wrestled fervently for his brethren..."in his prayers." Wow! What a thought! Do you labor fervently? For your fellow brethren? In your prayers? Think about the import of that! – *DS*

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Sharon Feeney dealing with severe back issues

Judie Jenkins recovering from foot surgery

Ruth Milton Lourdes-Noreen McKeen (room 208)

Charles Norton recovering from stent procedure

Tommy Pauldo Kindred Hospital (NO visitors), serious condition

Connye Plouffe recovering at home from back surgery

Jo Ann Rogers recovering at home but still very weak

Connie Tipton recovering from a fall

Long-Term Health Issues

Lillian Bankston dialysis treatments

Ruth Milton chronic health problems

Silas Moses dialysis treatments

Charles Norton dialysis treatments

Norm Smedley breathing problems

Patricia Ventress dialysis treatments

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames Annie Faison Janet Hickerson Daniel Johnson Godfrey Pratt
Sandra Daniels Helen Gardner Loretta Holaday Don & Betty Matter Leigh Puckett
Cora Lee Dennis Margie Hardin Shelton Howell Deidra Miley Ricky Smedley

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Prescolita Clough Marcia Clough-Moss' mother, still in the hospital

David Hardman Carol Hardman's husband, recovering at home from tests

Clara Medina Carolina Medina's sister, remains in the hospital

Ennis Mitchell Kay Richardson's brother, stage 4 cancer

Ricky Smith Willie Smith's brother, shot in leg, recovering from surg.



Church Family Calendar of Events

Monday, November 28

No Monday Night Bible Study.

Tuesday, November 29

- No Tuesday Morning Bible Study.
- Family Group 3 Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Dan & Loni Fuller.

Sunday, December 4

• Renova/North Lake Nursing Home Visit at 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 8

 Ladies' Soup Supper at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring soup, bread, dessert or a drink. Please bring an ornament to exchange. Carpool, if possible. See Traci for more details.

Saturday, December 10

 Ladies' Day hosted by the Arlington church of Christ in Jacksonville at 10:00 a.m. Former member, Pearl El, will be one of the speakers. To RSVP, call 904-743-4833. See the bulletin board for more details.

Sunday, December 11

 Youth & Family Singing after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Friday, December 16

 Family Group 4 Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Dirk & Elizabeth Summerlot. Please carpool; parking is limited.

Tuesday, December 20

 Tuesday Morning Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Dan & Judie Jenkins. Bring finger foods to share.

Saturday, December 31

 New Year's Eve Gathering at 9:00 p.m. Bring finger foods and drinks to enjoy.

Sunday, January 1

Renova/North Lake Nursing Home Visit at 2:30 p.m.

Young Adults

Friday, December 2

 Sr. High & YA Ladies' Hangout at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Rachel Fuller. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible.

Thursday, December 8

 Ladies' Soup Supper at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring soup, bread, dessert or a drink. Please bring an ornament to exchange.

Saturday, December 10

 Young Adult Devo & Holiday Party at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Nate & Cindy Nelson. Bring a \$15 present to exchange and toppings for baked potatoes or a dessert. Wear a tacky holiday scarf!

Sunday, December 18

Young Adult Meeting after evening worship in Adult 3.

Saturday, January 7

 Young Adult Devo at 6:00 p.m. Location TBD. See Shea Brown for details.



Sunday, November 27

 Sr. High Devo after evening worship on the church property. Bring drinks and chairs.

Friday, December 2

 Sr. High & YA Ladies' Hangout at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Rachel Fuller. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible.

Saturday, December 3

- Young Families' Holiday Party at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Cam & Hollie Crotts. Bring a gender neutral gift and a donation to help with food and craft costs. All families with children in 5th grade and under are invited. See Hollie Crotts for more details.
- Jr. High Holiday Party at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Buzz & Kathy Nelson. See Sarah Collier or Ivan & Amber Villard for details.

Sunday, December 11

 Youth & Family Singing after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

PALM BEACH LAKES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Men's Worship Service Assignments - December, 2016

		December 4	December 11	December 18	December 25	
Morning \	Worship Serv	rice				
Song Lead	der	Gary Friedly	Bobbo Lupo	Gary Friedly	Jerry Hopkins	
Opening F	Prayer	Charles Hayes	Shea Brown	David Thorpe	Dirk Summerlot	
Scripture	Reading	Carmen Ruckman	Phil Porter	Jeff Goodale	Eugene Williams	
Presiding	at Table	Gary Jenkins	Jimmy Banks	Victor Colage	Jim Rogers	
Serving at Table:		Kane Campbell	Henry Bass	Stephen Beliech	Jordan Beasley	
		Josue Charles	Lance Collier	Doug Carrick	Harrison Crotts	
		Paul Hensel	Rick Hall	Mike Damron	Gorman Erickson	
		Bobby Ingraham	Bill Ingram, Jr.	Wallace Jones	Andres Fernandez	
		Ken Long	Jeff Leslie	Nate Nelson	Namdidie Ikon	
		Vincent Rogers	Joe Maloney	Darin Summerlot	Bobbo Lupo	
		Brad Shelt	Kevin Weeks	Shaun Tyson	Clayton Trujillo	
		Marty Wiliams	Lawrence Williams	Nahum Villard	Austin Williams	
Closing P	rayer	Paul Metzkes	Tom Martens	Marvin Dozier	Richard Watson	
Evanina \	Navahin Cam	iaa				
Song Lead	Norship Serv	Stephen Beliech	Jerry Pittman	Ken Tipton	Dan McLeod	
Opening F		Dick Kelley	Chuck Clark	Deltom Lequernaque	Justin Maloney	
	-	Ivan Villard, Jr.	Taylor Reeves	Mike Erickson	Cam Crotts	
Scripture Reading Presiding at Table		Tim Fry	Morris McDaniel	Josh Blackmer	Ken Tipton	
Serving at Table:		Eddie Gooden	Lynn Parker	Josiah Blackmer	Bob Higbee	
oei vii ig at	Table.	Richard Lerro	Gary Seames	Scott Lewis	Jeremy Maloney	
		Simon Tyson	Mike Trujillo	Leonard Williams	Nick Pietro	
Closing P	ravor	Mike Archer	David Brown	Dan McLeod	Micah Trujillo	
Closing Fi	ı ayeı	IVIIKE AICHEI	David Brown	Dail Wicked	Iviican Tujiio	
Alternate	s:					
		Kirk Crews	Tim Cox	Novel Brown	Jerry Pittman	
		Jacade Reynolds	L.H. Richardson	Glen Dawson	Scott Studer	
Technical	l Assignment	s				
Morning:	Computer	Shea Brown	Nate Nelson	Bob Higbee	Brad Shelt	
•	Audio	Buzz Nelson	Kirk Crews	Ivan Villard, Jr.	David Brown	
	Video	Cam Crotts	Dan McLeod	Scott Studer	Darin Summerlot	
Evening:	Computer	David Sproule	Nate Nelson	Bob Higbee	Brad Shelt	
	Audio	Buzz Nelson	Kirk Crews	Ivan Villard, Jr.	David Brown	
	Video	Cam Crotts	Dan McLeod	Scott Studer	Darin Summerlot	
				133.1.0.000		
Ushers -	Morning & E	vening Services (Sund Dec. 4 & 7	Dec. 11 & 14	Dec. 18 & 21	Dec. 25 & 28	
Head I Ich	er		Dec. 11 & 14	Dec. 18 & 21	Dec. 25 & 26	
Head Ush	ICI	Chris Thompson Jim Davis	Edward Casar	Freddie Gadson	Harrison Carter	
			Edward Gager			
		Chuck Reeves, Sr.	Orlando Lolo	Errol Gower-Winter	Tim Mahlbacher	

- Sunday Morning Meet in classroom (Grade 7-8) at 9:45 A.M.
- Sunday Evening Meet at front of auditorium before 5:50 P.M.
- Scripture Reader Announce the pew Bible page number and read from the New King James translation.
- · Please consider this opportunity to serve as special and dress accordingly.
- Please call 775-3533 (Mike Ellis), if you can not serve at the time indicated.

"...always abounding in the work of the Lord..." (1 Cor. 15:58)



Sunday, November 20

LOCAL VISITORS: Ms. Gail Archer; Ms. Lori Armstrong; Mr. Jean Charles; Mrs. Susan Crosswhite; Mrs. Sylvia Goldie; Ms. Marcella D. Foster; Rashana Green; Jennifer King; Mrs. Maxine Griggs; Ron Jenkins; Collin Kato; John Loftis; Mrs. Sharon Mann; Mrs. Corinn Miller, Linley & Ellie; Kyle & Sheena Sink; and Miss Emma Teed.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: Walt & Hazel Arthur, Nashville, TN; Ms. Judy Chancey, Belle Glade, FL; Yvonne, Alana & Tahlia Clark; Mrs. Stacy Farrington, Plano, TX; Chris, Vickie, Emma, Walker & Olivia Fry, Lebanon, TN; Miss Kathryn Heib, Henderson, TN; Mrs. Monique LeBlanc, Quebec, Canada; Chad Morgan, Port St. Lucie, FL; Brian, Tammy, Tanner & Gibson Rayfield, Hahria, GA; Mr. & Mrs. Michael Rosenblum & Mia, Huntsville, AL; Ivan & Lenis Villard, Daytona Beach, FL; and Phil Woolbright, Peoria, AZ.



Sunday (Nov. 27th)
Brent & Andrea Leslie (Ann.)
Gary Friedly

Monday (Nov. 28th) Mike Damron

Tuesday (Nov. 29th) Jonathan Jordan Regina Paul Wednesday (Nov. 30th) Andres Fernandez

Friday (Dec. 1st)
Pat Brown
Steward Lynch

Those to Serve

If you cannot serve, please call Mike Ellis at 775-3533.

If you are scheduled to serve on <u>Sunday morning</u>, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at <u>9:50 a.m.</u>
If you are scheduled to serve on <u>Sunday evening</u>, please meet at the front of the auditorium at <u>5:50 p.m.</u>

Sunday Morning, November 27

,	
Lead Singing	Jerry Hopkins
Opening Prayer	Novel Brown
Scripture Reading	Bob Higbee
Presiding at Table	Bill Ingram, Jr.
Serve at Table:	
Jordan Beasley	Tim Mahlbacher
Chuck Clark	Scott Studer
Freddie Gadson	Micah Trujillo
Wallace Jones	Shaun Tyson
Alternates:	
Jimmie Banks	Deltom Lequernaqué
Closing Prayer	leff Goodale

Sunday Evening, November 27

Lead Singing	Dan McLeod		
Opening Prayer	Daniel Swayne		
Scripture Reading	Glen Dawson		
Presiding at Table	L.H. Richardson		
Bobbo Lupo			
Dirk Summerlot			
Austin Williams			
Closing Prayer	Charles Hayes		
Wednesday Evening, November 30			
Lead Singing	Shea Brown		
Invitation	Shaun Tyson		

Family PrayerVictor Colage

Our Record

Attendance	<u>Nov.20</u>	Oct. Avg.
Sun. Bible Study	265	244
Sun. A.M. Worshi	p 381	348
Sun. P.M. Worshi	p 206	170
Wed. Bible Study	171	182
Contribution \$	14,473	\$14,581

2016 Weekly Budget: \$14,660

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: +28,378

Ushers for week of Nov. 27 Head Usher: Richard Watson; Brent Leslie & Justin Maloney



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Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410-6401

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID

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Service Schedule

Sunday:

Bible Classes............9:00 a.m.
Worship6:00 p.m.
Wednesday:
Bible classes7:00 p.m.

Front Cover: Cody Price, Tyler Williams & Daniel Lord

